

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Minakuchi et al.

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Examiner:

Flynn, Kimberly D.

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

October 19, 2004

Date

Registration No. 29,367 Attorney for Applicant(s)

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AMENDMENT D

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 21, 2004, please amend the application as follows.